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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-20 are pending.

Claim 1 was rejected as allegedly anticipated by Long et al. and was rejected under the doctrine of obviousness type double patenting over U.S. Pat. No. 6,627,427. Claims 2-19 were objected to as depending from a rejected base claim but were otherwise allowable. Claim 20 was withdrawn from examination.

Claim 1 has been amended and now incorporates the elements of claims 2 and 3. As claims 2 and 3 were only objected to, it is believed that claim 1, and dependent claims 4-19, are allowable.

Claim 20 was withdrawn as being drawn to a non-elected invention. Claim 20 is directed to a method for producing an analog of 6-deoxyerythronolide B (6-dEB) modified by replacement of the propionate starter unit in a host cell of claim 1. Claim 20 depends directly from claim 1. In view of the allowability (Applicants believe) of claim 1, Applicants request that the Examiner rejoin claim 1. Applicants believe rejoinder adds little or no burden on the Office, and is appropriate in this circumstance.

The title was objected to as not descriptive. Applicants have amended the title to read "Recombinant Host Cells Expressing AtoAD and Capable of Making a Polyketide Using a Starter Unit." Applicants believe this addresses the Examiner's concerns and is more clear than the title suggested by the Office.

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CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing, Applicants believe all claims now pending in this Application are in condition for allowance. The issuance of a formal Notice of Allowance at an early date is respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes a telephone conference would expedite prosecution of this application, please telephone the undersigned at 650-326-2400.

Respectfully submitted,



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Attachments

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